

## Message Text

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ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 SWF-02 AGR-20 SCI-06 PC-10

USIA-15 IO-14 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 INT-08

COME-00 DRC-01 /182 W

----- 094734

P R 201615Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU

TO AMEMBASSY NIAMEY PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6303

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

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AFDROUGHT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, DM, NG

SUBJECT: THE WISH BECOME FATHER TO FACT

REF: NIAMEY 1980

1. WOULD BE USEFUL KNOW WHAT ARRANGEMENT CITED IN REFTTEL HAS BEEN MADE WITH NIGERIAN AND TOGOLESE TRUCKERS BY ALI SAIBOU ON HIS JUNE 6-7 VISIT TO COTONOU. NO TRUCKS HAVE ARRIVED COTONOU AND NO ONE HERE HAS ANY KNOWLEDGE OF ACTION TAKEN IN THIS REGARD BY MINISTER. PERHAPS HE WAS REFERRING TO SMALL OSRO ORGANIZED TRUCKING OPERATION THROUGH NIGERIA WHICH HAS STILL NOT BEGUN. ONLY KNOWN EFFORTS INDUCE TOGOLESE TRUCKERS TO COME TO DAHOMEY WERE MADE BY ADO/LOME. THUS FAR, THESE HAVE BEEN REJECTED BY LOME TRUCKING

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SYNDICATE.

2. UNLESS ALI SAIBOU HAS SUCCEEDED ON HIS OWN IN ORGANIZING A LARGE TRUCKING OPERATION TO BEGIN WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS, BELIEVE HIS OPTIMISM, EXPRESSED PARA 1, REFTTEL, MAY ALREADY BE HAVING DANGEROUS CONSEQUENCES. AS FAR AS I CAN SEE, COTONOU-PARAKOU ROUTE IS ONLY HOPE FOR EVACUATING BULK OF GRAIN NOW IN COTONOU PORT OR EXPECTED IN NEAR FUTURE. AT BEST, NIGERIAN ROUTE NEVER LIKELY BE MORE THAN A COSTLY SUPPLEMENTARY OPERATION. (ALRAINE FORWARDING AGENT ESTIMATES ONLY AN INITIAL 65 MT PER DAY.) IF CONTINUED SHORTAGE OF TRUCKS AT PARAKOU IS RESULT OF ALI SAIBOU'S MISTAKEN ASSUMPTION THAT NIGERIAN-TOGOLESE TRUCKS HAVE ALREADY BEGUN LARGE SCALE EVACUATION GRAIN FROM COTONOU, THEN WE ARE IN TROUBLE. GON PRESSURE MUST BE MAINTAINED ON TRUCKERS TO FORCE THEM TO COME TO PARAKOU. OTHERWISE, NEEDED LARGE QUANTITIES OF GRAIN SIMPLY WILL NOT ARRIVE IN NIGER.

3. URGE EMBASSY NIAMEY AGAIN DISCUSS QUESTION OF TRANSPORT SYSTEM WITH ALI SAIBOU SUGGESTING TO HIM THAT THERE ARE NO SIMPLE ALTERNATIVES TO MAKING PRESENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM WORK. EVEN AESOP WAS UNABLE TURN WORD INTO FACT. MCNAMARA

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DISASTER RELIEF, TRUCKS, GRAINS, DROUGHTS, HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 JUN 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974COTONO00981  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740162-0319  
**From:** COTONOU  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740629/aaaaayup.tel  
**Line Count:** 83  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION AID  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
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